



Boulder
County
Chapter

Newsletter

February 2007

We Are The Ones We've Been Waiting For



April Charmaine performs in support of saving Planet Earth. Students attending the 5th Annual African Heritage Youth Leadership Connection Conference were reminded that they are the ones who will save the planet and each other from destruction.

On February 23, 2007, the Boulder Valley School District's Institutional Equity and Multicultural Education Office sponsored the 2007 African Heritage Youth Leadership Connection conference. Director Pam Duran and AHYLCC coordinator, Carla Sherrell, recognized the various sponsors and supporters which included: the AHYLC Steering

Committee, Anissa Butler, Samm Donelson, and Johnna Wynn; the NOAA EEO Office in Boulder, the Boulder County chapter of Blacks In Government; the Institute for African American Leadership, Malaika Pettigrew and April Charmaine; the Math Literacy Project, Siral Al Salim; the Storyville Creole Café in Longmont, David Johnson; Front Range Community College, Matt Lungren and Camelia Moschetti; and faculty and students from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

The keynote was delivered by Sirat Al Salim. He thanked the students for their presence, their courage and their persistence. He said they were the source of hope for the future. He urged the students to use their hurricane voices because they were the ones we've been waiting for. "You are searching for what is real. It is your time to plow the rich fertile earth of yourselves and discover how you will use your talents as you are becoming. Now is the best time for you to change the world that must change," he said. Sirat stressed that change perhaps could only start in the students' minds, but if they use their hurricane voices they would be heard and change would occur.

He quoted a number of statistics. The most troublesome was that 50 percent of the prison population was made up of African Americans and they only made up 12 percent of the population. He said that revolutionary change was needed in how the talents of youth would be put to use. He urged that talents be used in science and in the community. The future depends on what you do or do not do, he said.



Malaika Pettigrew and Sirat Al Sirat prior to Sirat's keynote talk to the students at top right.



Left to Right: April Charmaine, Keith Juvan-Hubert, Carol Pearson, Gabby Brekken, Isaac Butler, and Anissa Butler served on the panel on Being Biracial and Multiracial: An African Heritage Tapestry.



Norma Johnson and Pam Duran at the registration table.



Samm Donelson in front of his display on Uganda. Samm gave a workshop on the Global Connections: The Angels of Africa.

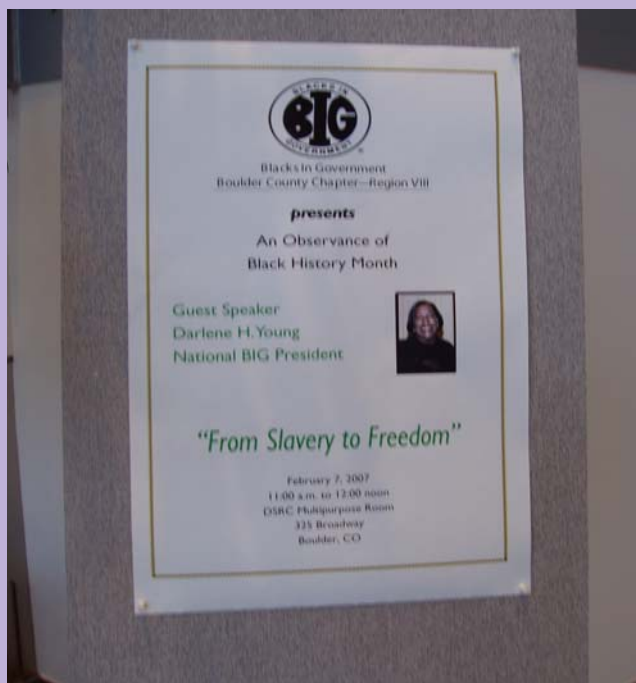


BIG Local and National Events

- Ms. Darlene Young, National President of Blacks In Government, gave the keynote address at the DOC Boulder Black History Month program on February 7, 2007. Special recognition was given to Dr. Waverly Person for his work on earthquakes.



Left to Right: Dr. Waverly Person; Ms. Darlene Young, National President of Blacks In Government; and Mr. Richard Shields, National 3rd Vice President of Blacks In Government and Boulder County Chapter member.



Poster in the lobby of the David Skaggs Research Center



MORE ON THE AFRICAN HERITAGE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONNECTION CONFERENCE HELD IN BOULDER. Standing Left is Johanna Wynn, conference committee member; and Right is Gary Blackmon, National Board of Directors Vice Chairman of Blacks In Government. Not pictured is Aswad Allen from CU Boulder. The workshop provided feedback on interview techniques. Gary Blackmon was the highest ranking member of Blacks In Government attending the AHYCC and his presence served as a reminder to students that BIG was interested in their future and was willing to devote time and energy to ensure their success. Gary thanked the students for thinking BIG!

Goals and Objectives

- Serve as an advocate for equal employment opportunities and conditions that affect its members (hires, promotions and retentions).
- Promote the professional development of BIG members at all levels of employment in the Boulder area.
- Maintain a liaison with government agencies which have established BIG chapters and assist those interested in starting new chapters.
- Provide for the completion, synthesis and dissemination of information on issues of concerns to BIG members, such as job vacancies and training opportunities.
- Serve as a forum for addressing issues that have an impact upon its members so that they may better know and express their views on matters which affect them.
- Enhance the promotion of ethnic pride with socio-economic, civic and cultural programs, and fellowship, to unite Blacks and other government employees
- Work toward the elimination of racism in government agencies.

Officers and Members

- President: Wilford Buggs, Retired from NOAA/MASC
- 1st Vice President: Richard Shields, USGS
- 2nd Vice President: Ray Stewart, NOAA/MASC
- Secretary: Derik Love, NIST Post Doc.
- Treasurer: Byron Louis, NOAA/NWS
- Parliamentarian: Katy Stewart, NOAA Research



Front Row: Becky Rios, Byron Louis (Treasurer), Georgia Madrid, Henry Guilford, Wilford Buggs (President)
Back Row: Tony Tafoya, Chet Madej, Katy Stewart (Parliamentarian), Ray Stewart (2nd Vice President) Carol Werner, Derik Love (Secretary), Richard Shields (1st Vice President and National 3rd Vice President)

Boulder County Chapter of Blacks In Government
Highlights from the DOC Boulder Black History Month on February 7, 2007.

- Ray Stewart, Boulder County Chapter 2nd Vice President, welcomed the audience to the Black History Month program and introduced the theme: "From Slavery to Freedom." He said that we are all in this together in a healing relationship in pursuit of a common goal.
- Dr. Alexander MacDonald, ESRL Director, prior to introducing Ms. Young, referred to the previous evening's NOVA TV program which featured the African American chemist, Dr. Percy Julian, who despite discrimination had a tremendous impact on our society.
- The keynote address was delivered by Ms. Darlene Young. She gave a historical perspective for slavery and began with the year 1501 with slaves in Santo Domingo. She stressed that the struggle is still continuing. She focused on certain dates such as 1705 when slaves were known as property; in 1775 the creation of the abolitionist society; the 1776 U.S. Declaration of Independence; 1805, when the slave trade was banned; from 1835-38 when slavery in England was abolished; the Dred Scott decision in 1857; 1861-65, the U.S. Civil War where 623,000 died; 1862-63, the emancipation proclamation; in 1865 the 13th Amendment—only for states in rebellion; the 14th Amendment in 1870; and separate but equal legal segregation in 1890. Ms. Young pointed out that the struggle was far from over: In 1948 Executive Order 9981 abolished segregation in the military; the Brown vs Board of Education decision was in 1950; in 1965 the march on Washington and the "I Have a Dream" speech by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and the 1964 Civil Rights Act. She said that today the struggle continues for jobs, education, housing, health care and justice. She closed by saying we should set goals, priorities and our course for a better life so that all can have equal opportunity and ensure that we have truly freed the slaves.
- Boulder County Blacks In Government president, Wilford Buggs, who served as master of ceremonies, presented Dr. Waverly Person with a recognition award for his many years of inspirational work in earthquake seismology.
- Dr. Tom O'Brian, NIST Director, said that we cannot deny the rights of people if we are to survive on this tiny planet. He said that the only way we will survive is by working together and recognizing the contributions of others.

More AHYLCC Activities



Special thanks also goes to all the students and parents who attended the conference; to Don and Pat Hodd from Stitch in Time; to April Charmaine for the T-Shirt design; and to David Johnson from the Storyville Creole Café in Longmont.

THE AFRICAN HERITAGE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONNECTION LEADERSHIP GOALS FOR PAST FOUR YEARS

- Inspired youth of African descent to realize their educational and professional potential through individual and group interactions with business, community, educational, and political leaders.
- Supported the development of leadership, communication, and collaboration skills and built self and group identity.
- Provided youth of African descent with opportunities to understand contemporary issues that are facing African heritage communities.
- Increased African heritage youths' awareness of the opportunities available to them in their communities; and of how they can use their skills to make positive contributions to the African American community.
- Provided opportunities to broaden education about African American Culture and Heritage.

WE ARE THE ONES WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR



LEFT TO RIGHT: Richard Shields, National 3rd Vice President of Blacks In Government; Carla Sherrell, Coordinator for the African Youth Leadership Connection Conference; and Tony Tafoya, NOAA EEO Office in Boulder. The three attended the DOC Boulder Black History Month program at the Boulder DOC laboratories on February 7, 2007.

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Meteorology & Physical Science

Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Lab - Miami, FL
Oceanography, Meteorology & IT Specialist

Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Lab - Princeton, NJ
Meteorology & Physical Science

Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab - Ann Arbor, MI
Physical Science, Oceanography and Ecology

National Severe Storms Lab - Norman, OK
Meteorology and Electronics Tech

Pacific Marine Environmental Lab -Seattle, WA
Oceanography, IT Specialist and Physical Science

For More information

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Phone: 303-497-6439/6732/6731

Website: <http://eeo.boulder.noaa.gov>

NOAA Research Website: www.oar.noaa.gov

NOAA Jobs: www.noaa.gov/jobs.html

NOAA Research congratulates the Boulder County
Blacks In Government Chapter for co-sponsoring the
Black History Month and African Youth Leadership
Connection Conference in Boulder, CO
February 2007



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 Longmont, CO 80503
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Membership Application Form

Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name	
Home Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Employer Name	
Work Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone (business)	
Telephone (Home)	
Fax	
E-Mail	

Membership Information #02-07

Type of Membership: New _____ Renewal _____ Federal _____ State _____ Local/County _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Membership Dues are \$55.00 (\$35 National and \$20.00 local chapter).

Boulder County BIG Chapter
 6798 Paiute Avenue
 Longmont, CO 80503

